Report on the working of the Backward Class Department

For the Year 1932-33

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE BACKWARD CLASS DEPARTMENT FOR 1932-33

No. B.C. 693.

From

O. H. B. STARTE, Esquire, C.B.E., I.C.S.,
Backward Class Officer, Bombay Presidency, Dharwar;

To

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT,
General Department, Bombay.

Dharwar, 21st September 1933.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the first Administration Report of this Department for the period commencing from 1st September 1931 and ending with 31st March 1933 on the amelioration of the condition of the Backward Classes. In accordance with the recommendations of the Depressed Classes and Aboriginal Tribes Committee, Government were pleased to appoint me as Backward Class Officer with effect from 1st September 1931 in addition to my duties as Criminal Tribes Settlement Officer and Secretary of the Bombay Presidency Borstal Association. Mr. D. Symington, I.C.S., held charge of this combined Department from 25th February 1932 to 14th October 1932. For the rest of the period covered by the report the charge was held by myself. Government were also pleased to sanction the post of an Assistant Backward Class Officer and Mr. M. K. Jadhav, B.A., was appointed in this capacity with headquarters at Dharwar from 1st November 1931 to 24th January 1933 on which date he reverted to the Revenue Department. The post remained vacant until 2nd July 1933 when Mr. Solomon Benjamin, B.A., LL.B., was appointed with headquarters at Ahmedabad.

Classification of Backward Classes.

2. As there existed no common definition of the Backward Classes for all purposes such as educational privileges, recruitment to services and representation on public bodies, considerable difficulty was experienced in the beginning in explaining to the public, and local authorities which exactly were the Classes contemplated by the Government of Bombay by the use of the term "Backward Classes". In consultation with the Backward Class Board and this Department, Government have now passed orders on the subject under Government Resolution, General Department, No. 9330, dated 29th May 1933. According to the list now sanctioned and published by Government the

Backward Classes include three schedules (*i*) Depressed Classes, (*ii*) Aboriginal and Hill Tribes, and (*iii*) "Other Backward Castes".

Representations were received from several castes for inclusion among the schedules of Backward Classes. Their cases were considered by the Backward Class Board and in a few cases their inclusion was recommended to Government. In general, however, most of the castes desiring to be included among the Backward Classes were not socially or educationally so backward as the castes already grouped by Government as Backward Classes. The inclusion of such castes would be detrimental to the interests of the communities now classified as "Backward" as the latter would not be able to compete successfully with these relatively more advanced classes in scholarships etc. The Board was unanimous in desiring to keep the lists of castes within as small limits as possible, so that the efforts of the Department might not be dissipated.

Primary Education of Backward Classes.

3. In accordance with the recommendations of the Depressed Classes and Aboriginal Tribes Committee, Government have reaffirmed by Government Circular, Educational Department, No. 206 of 23rd December 1932 the policy that there should be equality of treatment for all classes of children in publicly managed educational institutions, and that in particular all pupils should sit together regardless of class distinctions. Although admission is not refused to the pupils of Depressed Classes in any of the public schools, some distinction is still observed with regard to the seating of these children especially in villages. Such cases are gradually being brought to light.

In a few villages in Gujerat it has been reported that the Depressed Classes themselves are not willing that their children should sit adjacent to the other children, and in one case the School Board took agreements from the Depressed Classes to the effect that they did not wish that their children should sit alongside of the caste children. Undoubtedly social pressure is sometimes brought upon the Depressed Classes by the caste Hindus, on whom they are dependent in many respects, to express their unwillingness for their children to sit by the side of the children of caste Hindus. In some of these cases if the departmental officers compel such Depressed Class pupils to sit along with other children, the parents withdraw them from the school altogether in order to please the village people. If they fail to do so, they incur the displeasure of the latter. Nevertheless appreciable progress has been made and steady vigilance for the next few years should result in a complete victory in this direction.

4. The policy followed in this Presidency recently with regard to the education of the Depressed Classes is the encouragement of common schools as opposed to separate schools for these Classes, provided that this does not check the increase in the number of pupils attending schools from the Depressed Classes. I have observed that the closure of the separate schools is being carried out by several local authorities, but

unfortunately in some cases this has been done without regard to the important proviso "the attendance of Depressed Class children should not fall thereby". In one municipal area a Depressed Class special school was closed in the middle of the school year and no provision was made for absorbing the children into other schools. The Depressed Class children who did attend a common school of that area did not have their names entered in the school register for several months. Such lack of care is one of the reasons for the decrease in the number of Depressed Class children attending schools during the year, which has been noticed in some areas. According to the Satara District School Board Administration Report there were 8,531 Depressed Class children and 149 Aboriginal and Hill Tribes children under instruction during the year 1926–27. The corresponding figures for 1931–32 stood as 7,664 and 97 respectively.

The Educational Department's report for 1931–32 shows an increase in the number of Depressed Class pupils in the Primary Schools—

1929–30	..	..	60,006
1930–31	..	..	60,807
1931–32	..	..	64,239

The effect of the closing of the special Depressed Classes primary schools will be mainly shown in the 1932–33 Educational report and these figures are not yet available. I trust the total figures will show no decrease.

5. Some local authorities have given effect to the idea of interchange of teachers between the common schools and separate schools. Government have given a valuable lead in this matter by the introduction of a Depressed Class teacher in each of the Practising schools attached to Men's Teachers' Training Colleges. There has now been more than a year's experience in the matter and the experiment has been successful. I am advising all local authorities to follow the example of the Government Practising schools, as I feel this will be an important factor in raising the Depressed Classes. Again, if the Depressed Class master of a Depressed Class special school is appointed to the common school to which the Depressed Class pupils should go when the special school is closed, it will greatly encourage the Depressed Class pupils to go to the new school. I have been greatly cheered by the courage and firmness shown by some School Boards and Administrative Officers in enforcing the seating of the Depressed Class children along with other pupils and in the introduction of Depressed Class teachers into the common schools. To resist successfully the pressure of the *ultra* orthodox in such matters is no easy task.

6. During the year 1929–30 there were 23,161 Aboriginal Tribes children attending the Primary Schools in this Presidency. This number dropped to 20,608 for the year 1930–31, but it is satisfactory to note that the number of children has increased again to 23,180 for the year 1931–32.

7. In the matter of progress of Primary Education of Backward Classes much depends on the co-operation of the local authorities and

the steps taken by them for increasing the facilities to Depressed Classes and other Backward Class children. The Administration reports of several School Boards show that scholarships to students of Backward Classes have been stopped as a measure of retrenchment. For example the Poona Municipal School Board which had provided Rs. 2,450 for special scholarships to Depressed Classes in 1931–32 dropped the scholarships entirely in 1932–33. Similarly, the aids for purchasing slates, books, etc. for children of these Classes have also been discontinued in many cases. The reason given by the local authorities is that they had a 20 per cent. cut (now reduced to 14 per cent.) and chose this as one of the ways of retrenchment. But it seems to me unfair to the Backward Classes, and probably illegal also, that the whole of the allotment for the Backward Classes for Scholarships, slates, books, etc. should be cut. There is danger of a great waste of public money if pupils do not have slates, pencils and books. It is tragic that in making the very minor savings resulting by not supplying these articles, the very great loss incurred by the lack of progress in the pupils is forgotten. The attention of the Director of Public Instruction has been drawn to the anomaly and he is taking up the matter.

8. There is a great need for recruiting more teachers in the primary schools from the Backward Classes and specially from the Depressed Class section of the Backward Classes. Unless this is done the amalgamation of the special schools with the common schools may not lead to any large measure of success. Since the transfer of the control of primary education to the local authorities, the recruitment of primary school teachers is under their control. In the light of the figures of recruitment of Backward Class teachers received from the various local authorities, I have been examining the position. The policy of the School Boards varies curiously from district to district, and I have tried by comparison of figures to stir up the laggard Boards to recruit more Depressed Class teachers. In Bombay City municipal schools nearly 8 per cent. of the teachers are drawn from the Depressed Classes. The Sholapur Municipal School Board has also the same percentage of teachers from these Classes. It is hoped that the rest of the School Boards, where recruitment of teachers from Depressed Classes is poor, will follow the example of these Boards.

Secondary and College Education.

9. The Backward Class Officer is authorised to utilise part of his allotment in awarding scholarships and fees to Backward Class students studying in schools and colleges in special cases. During the period under report several applications were received by me for scholarships and other financial assistance from Backward Class boys studying in high schools and colleges. These were forwarded to the Educational Inspectors concerned for securing scholarships from that Department in the usual way. In certain exceptional deserving cases where scholarships could not be granted by the Educational Department I have awarded scholarships in consultation with the latter from the funds

at my disposal. Rs. 1,912 were spent in this way during 1932-33 by awarding 55 scholarships. I have also paid part of the College fees of two Depressed Class students during the year. One Depressed Class student was paid a scholarship to help him in his law studies. I have also paid a small grant of Rs. 50 for the addition of a temporary kitchen to the Depressed Class Hostel at Belgaum under the Karnatak Depressed Class Education Society, Belgaum.

Backward Class Special Scholarships.

10. The number of special scholarships for Backward Classes for Primary Education need to be increased. This need was recognised by the Backward Class Board, but having regard to the state of provincial finances, the Board suggested a reduction in the value of these scholarships and a corresponding increase in the number of scholarships. The suggestion was accepted by Government. Still more scholarships of this kind will be needed as soon as funds are available.

11. In the case of scholarships for secondary education for Backward Classes, it is noticed that several scholarships lapse to Government every year for want of suitable candidates. In the year 1931-32 out of 174 special scholarships sanctioned by Government for Backward Classes, only 110 were actually utilised. The orders of Government that vacant scholarships should not be re-awarded during the year was partly responsible for this. But an important reason seems to be lack of knowledge on the part of Backward Class candidates about the scholarship examinations, and the mode of submitting applications within the prescribed period to the Educational authorities. These are being repeatedly brought to the notice of Backward Class District Committees and the leaders of Backward Classes in the conferences organized by this Department and the Head Masters of High and Middle schools are also being requested from time to time to help the candidates in securing the scholarships. I have reason to believe that the number of scholarships lapsing during the current year will be very few.

Hostels for Depressed Class Students.

12. Besides the Government Depressed Class Hostel, Poona, which is the only hostel in this Presidency for Depressed Class students run entirely at Government cost, there are many hostels controlled by private agencies which have been recognised for grants-in-aid from Government. Grants are being paid to most of these hostels by the Educational Department in consultation with myself. The cost of running the Government Depressed Class Hostel, Poona, with accommodation for 50 boys, came to Rs. 12,105 for the year 1931-32. Economies were effected in this hostel and the Backward Class Board recommended that the savings effected thereby should be devoted to increasing the assistance given to Depressed Class hostels run in the mofussil by private agencies. This suggestion has been accepted by Government.

There is a great variation in the running costs of these hostels. In the hostel founded by Mr. Bhaurao P. Patil in Satara wherein Depressed Class boys live with other caste boys, they do their own cooking and house work and a certain amount of farm work also. As a result the monthly expenditure is about Rs. 4 only per head. It is impossible for all hostels to reach this standard of simplicity, but undoubtedly it would be to the real interests of the Depressed Class boys if they did more of the hostel work themselves, and if a very simple standard of living was maintained.

Recruitment to Public Services.

13. Assistance to Backward Class candidates in obtaining employment in the various Government offices throughout this Presidency has formed one of the main activities of this Department. Government have impressed on all the appointing authorities that whenever qualified candidates of the Backward Classes are available, they should give preference to them for recruitment to clerical posts. Government have also prescribed a minimum of 10 per cent. for members of Depressed Classes in menials' posts exclusive of sweepers and have directed that applicants of these Classes should be given preference till the prescribed percentage is reached. The orders of Government have been brought to the notice of the Backward Classes by this Department from time to time, and in some cases the appointing officers have filled up vacancies by accepting the candidates suggested by us. Names of Backward Class candidates for various posts such as clerks, teachers, constables, bailiffs, talathis, peons, postmen, forest-guards, etc. are recorded and where possible are submitted to suitable Departments. During the years 1931 and 1932, 78 and 57 men from the Depressed Classes have been recruited as constables in the various districts by the Police Department. There is a great variation in the number of Depressed Class Police recruits taken by the different districts, variations which cannot be wholly explained by differences in the recruiting material available in the several districts. I have drawn the attention of the District Superintendents of Police concerned to this aspect of the question. In December last, two Depressed Class candidates were appointed as Probationary Police Sub-Inspectors and they are now under training in the Central Police Training School, Nasik. Although the progress made is encouraging, in view of the present retrenchment and reduction of establishment in the several departments, it is hard to satisfy the claims of the Backward Classes. These Classes have had no adequate share in the past, and I am trying to secure the co-operation of other employing agencies, particularly the District Local Boards and Municipalities as they have to recruit from time to time a number of clerks, teachers, sanitary inspectors, maistris, peons and other staff.

Housing of the Backward Classes.

14. In Sholapur, Hubli and other big cities where the Backward Classes have migrated in search of work many of them are found to be

living under unhealthy and unstable conditions. Some are without homes and in other cases several families are living in the same hut with temporary partitions. Others again are living in temporary huts unauthorizedly on open pieces of private or public land. Their housing opens out big questions which can only be attacked gradually. Their needs have in some cases been brought to the notice of the Municipalities and the Collectors and suitable sites are being selected for them in consultation with these authorities.

Use of Public wells, Dharmashalas etc.

15. As early as 1923 the Bombay Legislative Council passed a resolution that the Depressed Classes should be allowed to use all public watering places, wells, dharmashalas, dispensaries, etc. maintained out of public funds. The local bodies were advised to consider the desirability of accepting the recommendation made in the Council resolution. The Legislative Council also passed another resolution in 1926 recommending that discretionary grants made by Government to municipalities and local boards should be reduced in the case of local bodies which refuse to give effect to the Council resolution of 1923. Government have directed in 1930 that no grant for the improvement of village water-supply should be paid to local boards except on condition that the well or other work improved or newly constructed with the help of the Government grant is available for the use of all castes and classes equally. In actual fact this order has not been enforced. I have suggested ways to enforce this salutary rule and these are now before Government.

From the above it will be seen that the policy followed in this Presidency with regard to public wells has been to give access to the Depressed Classes over all wells owned by Government or local authorities. Government have affirmed over and over again the right of all classes to use public wells. They have desired that their officers should neglect no opportunity of making clear and when necessary of supporting the policy of Government on the subject. Local Boards have been called upon to put up notice boards as an experiment on about 20 per cent. of the wells owned by them to the effect that the wells are open for use to all castes and classes of the public without restriction.

In spite of all these resolutions and Government orders on the subject progress in the matter has been very slow. In several places the Depressed Classes have informed me of their desire to assert their rights with regard to wells and tanks, but it is disappointing to note that the number of successful cases have been very few. In Nargund in Dharwar District the Depressed Classes organized themselves on one occasion and were using a public tank for about four or five days. The caste Hindus persuaded the Depressed Classes to give up their attempt and promised to consider the matter. This was followed by the passing of a resolution by the Municipal Committee prohibiting the Depressed Classes from using the tank. The Assistant Backward Class Officer and later on I myself visited Nargund and addressed the public with

regard to the rights of the Depressed Classes and explained the Government orders on the subject. The Municipal Committee reconsidered their decision, but did not agree to the Depressed Classes using the tank permanently.

In another place in Hotgi with the help of the Assistant Backward Class Officer, Bijapur, the Depressed Classes took water from a local board well. The result is being watched.

The question of common wells for the Depressed Classes and others is very important. Any attempt on the part of the Depressed Classes to use one of the touchable wells results in the boycott of the Depressed Classes and in the villagers refusing to employ the Depressed Classes in their fields or to sell them anything from their shops.

With regard to wells situated in Government office compounds instances have been brought to my notice where the Depressed Classes are not allowed the use of such wells. Heads of offices have been requested in such cases to allow the Depressed Classes to draw water from these wells.

I think that progress in this direction will be more rapid as the other measures for the uplift of the Depressed Classes become more effective. When a master in the common village school is a Depressed Class man and he teaches all castes, and when there are a number of Depressed Classes in Government service in all grades including the Revenue and Police establishments, it will then be difficult for the caste Hindus to refuse the legal rights of the Depressed Classes as regards the use of the village well.

In October 1932 the Council passed a further resolution recommending that Government should reduce any discretionary grant to dispensaries and hospitals under the control of Government, local authorities or other Government aided institutions where the Depressed Classes are not admitted on the ground of custom, religion or orthodoxy of the Hindus and where equal treatment to Depressed Classes is denied.

Backward Class District Committees.

16. One of the activities of this Department has been the formation of non-official committees in selected districts to co-operate in the organization of work for the uplift of the Backward Classes. These Committees are nominated by me from amongst the leaders of the Backward Classes and other influential gentlemen in these districts. There are at present seven District Committees working in Dharwar, Belgaum, Bijapur, Sholapur, Satara, Ratnagiri and Poona Districts. The establishment of a Committee has also been sanctioned for Thana District and is in the process of formation. The Committees are one of the sources of information on the grievances and needs of the Backward Classes, and form a channel of communication between the department and the Backward Classes. District Committees are also sometimes asked to give their opinions on questions referred to them by the Backward Class Board or by myself. Important questions such as the problem

of drinking water wells for the Depressed Classes, measures for the prevention of dedication of girls from the Backward Classes, steps to be taken for the amalgamation of the special Schools with the common schools, etc., were discussed by some of the District Committees and the opinions recorded by these Committees were of assistance to the Backward Class Board in finding solutions for the problems. The Committees are kept informed from time to time of the important Government orders regarding the rights and privileges of the Depressed Classes as well as the other Backward Classes. They have also been helpful in supplying to this department with lists of Backward Class candidates who are seeking for service.

This line of work has been altogether new and it is yet too early to form an opinion of the value of the District Committees. Some of the Committees have not functioned well. Nevertheless, they have in many cases served a useful purpose in the propaganda work of the Department among the Backward Class public. The Committees seem more likely to work well if an influential and independent gentleman of some other community is President. This helps to keep the different factions of the Backward Classes united.

Conferences and meetings and enquiry into the grievances of Backward Classes.

17. In the course of my tour I have summoned conferences consisting of leaders of Backward Classes and others in these cities who believe in social reform and removal of untouchability for ascertaining the grievances and needs of the Backward Classes.

During the period covered by the report conferences of the Backward Classes were held by the Backward Class Officer at Dharwar, Bijapur, Sholapur, Poona, Belgaum, Ratnagiri, Jalgaon, Nasik etc. In addition the Assistant Backward Class Officer has held meetings of the Backward Classes in the course of his tour. Such meetings are of value but on the whole experience has shown that equally effective knowledge of the condition and needs of the Depressed Classes can be obtained by talking to them in smaller groups. In some places the leaders of the Backward Classes have formed themselves into deputations and have placed written memoranda of their grievances before the Backward Class Officer or his Assistants. The grievances are enquired into as far as possible, and Heads of other Departments and local authorities are addressed in the matters concerning them. The grievances put forth are more or less common for all Districts. In several places the Depressed Classes have represented the difficulties experienced by them owing to the lack of proper sanitation, drinking water, lighting and latrine arrangements in their areas. The sweepers and other menials employed in the conservancy establishment of several municipalities complain that their services are treated as temporary, and no provision is made for granting them Provident Fund or pension, leave, increment and other facilities. I am in consultation with some of the municipalities on the subject, and with their co-operation I hope to formulate workable

schemes. In some villages in Gujarat hindrance is caused to the Depressed Classes for travelling in public buses. The drivers of the motor vehicles yielding to the sentiments of the caste Hindu passengers have refused accommodation to Depressed Class members. The instances ave been brought to the notice of the District Superintendents of Police concerned who have dealt with the offenders.

Complaints are also received that the Depressed Classes are sometimes not served by tea stall-owners on railway platforms, and they are not allowed the use of drinking water wells constructed by the Railway Companies at various railway stations. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway authorities have issued special instructions to the staff concerned to ensure that members of Depressed Classes are not debarred the use of wells or refused refreshment by the tea and food stall holders. It cannot be said however that the intentions of the Railway authorities are in fact carried out in practice in all cases.

18. The Backward Class Officer has in suitable cases urged the claims of the Backward Classes for nomination as members to District Local Boards, Municipalities and School Boards. Several local leaders of these Classes have realised that his would be an effective way of safeguarding the interests of their communities in the various districts and have been pressing their claims through this Department.

Backward Class Board Meetings.

19. In virtue of a resolution by the Bombay Legislative Council proposing the appointment of a Board on the lines proposed by the Depressed Classes and Aboriginal Tribes Committee, Government have appointed a Backward Class Board consisting of nine members with the Backward Class Officer as President. The Legislative Council elected three nominees on this Board from its own members to represent general interests. According to the constitution of the Backward Class Board, all Backward Class members of the Legislative Council are also appointed by Government as members of the Board. Accordingly two Depressed Class members of the Council were appointed on the Board. Four members were nominated by Government from other persons having special knowledge of the needs of the Depressed Classes, Aboriginal Tribes and other Backward Classes. The members of the Board hold office for a period of two years.

During the period under report four series of meetings of the Backward Class Board were held. Appendix A gives the subjects discussed by the Board at each series of meetings. From time to time persons having special knowledge of subjects under discussion have been co-opted by the Board during the discussion of these subjects. The Board has discussed several important questions affecting the life of the Backward Classes. The resolutions passed by the Board are forwarded to Government for consideration. The discussions in the meetings have shown that the Board is alive to its responsibilities. Government have already given effect to some of the recommendations made by the Backward Class Board and others are under consideration.

Finance.

20. The expenditure incurred by the Backward Class Department under budget head "37, Miscellaneous Departments" for the two preceding years was as follows:—

	Rs.
From September 1931 to March 1932 ..	5,458
1932–1933	12,601

The above expenditure includes the amount spent on scholarships, house sites, etc., pay and allowances of the Assistant Backward Class Officer and staff, and the cost of the Board meetings in travelling allowance paid to members of the Backward Class Board.

Conclusion.

21. I have attempted to describe in general terms the nature of the activities of the Department during the first period of its working. Every day brings to the notice of the Backward Class Officer more of the grievances and needs of these Classes, and the numerous applications and petitions received in this office show that the Backward Classes are beginning to take advantage of the protection given to them through this Department. In a work of this nature, it needs to be emphasised that much depends on the co-operation of Municipalities and District Local Boards, and on the attitude taken by them towards these classes. Otherwise several problems such as provision of sites, lights, latrines, water-supply and other public conveniences do not admit of easy solution. The assistance received so far from these authorities and from other Government Departments has been very encouraging and the thanks of Government are due to them for their co-operation in this work. The Backward Class District Committees have also been assisting the Department by communicating to the Backward Class Officer the local grievances of these Classes, and our thanks are due to the Chairmen, Secretaries and several non-official leading gentlemen of these committees for their valuable co-operation.

During this short period since the commencement of the Department, it has not been possible either for me or for the Assistant Backward Class Officer to visit all the centres of work or take up detailed work in all areas. The staff sanctioned for the Department being very small (one Assistant Backward Class Officer and 3 clerks) considerable difficulty was experienced in the organization of work owing to the vast distances to be covered. To overcome this difficulty the Assistant Backward Class Officer's Headquarters is now changed to Ahmedabad and Government have also sanctioned the post of an organizer to assist him.

The funds at the disposal of the Department are also very small. In many ways I feel however that the smallness of the funds and staff

have had a distinct advantage. It has enabled us to work and gain experience without undue expense to Government, and has also forced upon us the fact that we must not attempt to work by ourselves, but that we must work by co-operation with and through other Departments of Government and local and private agencies. The work has been experimental and we had no precedents to guide us. Nevertheless I feel that the progress made has been encouraging, and the experience gained should make the work more effective in the years to come.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

O. H. B. STARTE,

Backward Class Officer,
Bombay Presidency, Dharwar.

APPENDIX A.

MEETINGS OF THE BACKWARD CLASSES BOARD.

Serial No.	Date.	Subjects discussed.
1	9th December 1931 and 10th December 1931.	Supplying of important Government Resolutions to members of the Board.
2	Do. ..	Enquiry into the condition of Primary Education of Backward Classes in selected Districts.
3	Do. ..	Enquiry with regard to Primary Schools where Depressed Class children are not admitted.
4	Do. ..	Question of rewarding Backward Class Special Scholarships which have fallen vacant.
5	Do. ..	Recruitment of Backward Classes. The question of their being affected by any Scheme of retrenchment.
6	Do. ..	Recruitment of Depressed Classes as Sub-Inspectors of Police.
7	Do. ..	Question of formation of non-official District Committees.
8	Do. ..	Classification of castes.
9	Do. ..	Reprinting of the report of the Depressed Classes and Aboriginal Tribes Committee.
10	13th February 1932 to 16th February 1932.	Formation of non-official Backward Class District Committees.
11	Do. ..	Opening of all public wells and tanks to Depressed Classes.
12	Do. ..	Education of Backward Class girls.
13	Do. ..	Dedication of girls from Depressed Classes.
14	Do. ..	Classification of Ambigs.
15	Do. ..	Education of Aboriginal Tribes.
16	Do. ..	Representation of Backward Classes to public bodies.
17	3rd August 1932 to 5th August 1932.	The question of contribution from local bodies towards the expenses of the District Committees.
18	Do. ..	Classification of Tadvi Bhils.
19	Do. ..	Reservation of posts to Backward Classes in public service.
20	Do. ..	Recruitment of Depressed Classes in the Army.
21	Do. ..	Primary Education of Aboriginal Tribes.
22	Do. ..	Question of imparting education to Bhil children in Khandesh in local dialects.
23	Do. ..	Question of increasing the number of Backward Class Special Scholarships for Primary Education.
24	Do. ..	The question of reduction of expenditure of the Government Depressed Class Hostel, Poona.
25	Do. ..	Classification of castes Valands, and Suryavanshi Kolis.

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Serial No.	Date.	Subjects discussed.
26	3rd August 1932 to 5th August 1932.	The question of obtaining common use of wells, Dharmashalas, dispensaries etc. for the Depressed Classes and consideration of the proposals to be submitted to Government.
27	Do.	Representation of Backward Classes to local bodies and to the Provincial Legislative Council.
28	Do.	Enfranchisement of the Depressed Classes—Discussion on the recommendations of the Franchise Committee.
29	Do.	Measures for the prevention of dedication of girls to temples.
30	5th January 1933 to 7th January 1933.	Classification of Gabits.
31	Do.	Classification of Backward Classes, additions and alterations to the schedules of Backward Classes prepared by the Depressed Classes and Aboriginal Tribes Committee.
32	Do.	Issuing of pamphlets by Backward Class Department for the uplift of Backward Classes.
33	Do.	Grievances and needs of the Katkaris in Thana District.
34	Do.	Special experiments for the Education of Aboriginal Tribes.
35	Do.	Recruitment of Backward Classes by local bodies.
36	Do.	Hostel accommodation for Backward Classes in Government High Schools.
37	Do.	Representation of the Aboriginal Tribes in the New Provincial Council.

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